achievements of the goal of removing poverty set by the Finance Ministers' Meeting; and

(c) what is Government's perception about the utility of SAARC forum for discussion on matters of mutual trust and economic issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The SAARC Finance/Planning Ministers met in Dhaka on 10-11 July, 1994, primarily to discuss issues relating to poverty alleviation/eradication and also review the trends in the global economic situation, the economic situation in the South Asian countries and the impact on the region of the emergence of regional trading blocks around the world. During these meetings of the SAARC Finance/Planning Ministers, there were no discussions on issue relating to mutual mistrust and varying security perceptions.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of India is fully committed to regional cooperation and utilising the SAARC Forum for cooperation in the core economic areas, so as to improve mutual respect and trust.

Hostile Labour MEP's Bode ill for India

1134. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the newsitem captioned "Hostile Labour MEP's bode ill for India" appearing in the 'The Observer of Business and Politics' New Delhi, dated, 13th July, 1994;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what precautionary and timely steps are being taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are aware of constiutency pressures which may influence the public positions of some members of the newly elected European Parliament on issues of concern to India. Our High Commission in London and other Missions in countries of the European Union are in regular contact with these MEPs to apprise them of the facts related to J&K and problems posed by externally sponsored terrorism, and to encourage them to take an objective stand.

Asian security forum

1135. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is actively seeking membership of the new Asian security forum being launched by the ASEAN block and other South-east Asian countries along with their Western allies;

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present; and

(c) how far joining this new regional security forum will be useful to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) India has recently indicated to the ASEAN member-countries its interest in joining the ASEAN Regional Forum.

(b) The general issue relating to admission of new members to the Forum is yet to be considered.

(c) Joining the ARF will enable India to participate in discussions on political and security issues of the region that are of mutual concern.

Recovery of Loan from SAARC member countries

1136. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any efforts for the recovery of loans provided to the SAARC Member-countries;

(b) if so, the target fixed for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Under SAARC related activities, no loans have been provided to any SAARC Member countries.

(b) Does not arise.

राजनयिक करारों का अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में प्रकाशन किया जाना

1137. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विदेशों के साथ सभी राजनयिक करारों के सन्दर्भ में राजभाषा अधिनियम, की धारा 3(3) का अनुपालन किया जाता है ;

(ख) क्या पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान किए गए करारों से संबंधित दस्तावेजों को मौजूदा उपबन्धों के अनुसार हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी दोनों भाषाओं में तैयार किया गया था ;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस बात की अनिवार्यता महसूस करती है कि जिस प्रकार धारा 3(3) के अनुसार भारत सरकार के सभी कार्य द्विभाषी होते हैं वैसे ही विदेशों में भी जो हमारे पत्र परिपत्र जाएं वे भी द्विभाषी रुप में ही जायें; और

(घ) क्या उक्त धारा के उल्लंघन को सरकार चूक मानती है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां ।

(ग) और (घ) विदेश स्थित हमारे मिशनों और केन्द्रों को भारत में सरकारी कार्यालयों की तरह ही राजभाषा नीति का पालन करना होता है । तथापि, हमारे मिशनों को अपने प्रत्यापन के देश/देशों के साथ अपने कार्यकलाप में कार्यात्मक बातों का ध्यान रखना पड़ता है ।

Illegal Detention of Indian Diplomats in Pakistan

1138. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether time and again the Pakistan authorities have been detaining illegally our diplomats posted in that country and also subjecting them to torture; brutal and inhuman behaviour violative of accepted norms of diplomatic behaviour;

(b) whether another incident of detaining illegally, torturing and treating inhumanly an Indian diplomat has taken place in Pakistan recently;

(c) if so, what measures Government have taken to highlight this breach of accepted norms of diplomatic behaviour of Pakistan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Since the signing of the Code of Conduct for Treatment of Diplomatic|Consular Personnel in India and Pakistan in Angust, 1992 there have been numerous incidents of harassment and intimidatory and obstrusive surveillance directed against Indian officials and their family members posted in Pakistan.

(b) During the night of July, 11, 1994 an Attache in the Indian High Commission in Islamabad, Shri V. S. Chauhan was abducted outside his residence, was forcibly detained and subjected to sustained third-degree interrogation lasting for more than six hours.

(c) and (d) Government are gravely concerned over the aggressive surveillance and harassment meted out to the Indian officials posted in Islamabad and Karachi in the recent period. Government regard this to